



***Embassy of the United States of America
Madrid, Spain***

**Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Planned Demonstrations
July 19, 2012**

This Security Message is to inform U.S. citizens that Civil Servant protests are scheduled to take place on July 19 in Madrid and Barcelona. If you encounter a large public gathering or demonstration, the U.S. Embassy suggests that you avoid the area. Planned and spontaneous demonstrations in response to economic or other events occur regularly in Spain. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational. U.S. citizens are therefore urged to avoid the areas of demonstrations if possible, and to exercise caution if within the vicinity of any demonstrations.

July 19, 2012 - MADRID

Time: 8:30 pm
Route: Plaza de Neptuno to Puerta del Sol
Roads closed: From Atocha Rail Station, Paseo del Prado, Cibeles, Recoletos, Paseo de la Castellana, Calle Alcalá, and access to Puerta del Sol.
Closure time: Beginning 6:30 pm
Participants expected: 50,000 people

On Thursday, July 19, beginning at 8:30 pm demonstrators in Madrid plan to march from Plaza Neptuno to Puerta del Sol. Vehicle and pedestrian traffic is expected to be disrupted. Although relevant security measures will be adopted by Spanish law enforcement agencies, the number of isolated conflicts that may arise during the demonstration is unknown. Due to the large crowds, traffic issues and police presence, the Embassy recommends that you avoid these areas beginning at 6:00 pm. Traffic information for Madrid can be viewed on the Municipal website www.munimadrid.es.

July 19, 2012 - BARCELONA

Time: 7:30 pm
Route: Plaza de Catalunya to Plaza Palau,
Roads closed: Layetana, Urquinaona, Isabel II, Ronda de Sant Pere.
Closure time: Beginning 7:00 pm

Participants expected: 50,000 people

The Plaza de Catalunya, at the top of Las Ramblas, is the main intersection downtown with many streets, metro stops, tourist areas and stores converging there. The protests will make an area that is already extremely crowded with summer tourists nearly impassable. Although relevant security measures will be adopted by Spanish law enforcement agencies, the number of isolated conflicts that may arise during the demonstration is unknown. Due to the large crowds, traffic issues and police presence, the Embassy and Consulate General recommend that you avoid these areas beginning at 6:00 pm.

The U.S. Embassy encourages U.S. citizens to review "[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)," which includes valuable security information for those both living and traveling abroad. All U.S. citizens in Spain are urged to enroll online at the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#) (STEP). Enrolling gives U.S. Citizens access to updated information on travel and security within Spain and makes it easier for the Embassy to contact citizens in case of emergency. You can also download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.

Current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States or a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444 for callers from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). You can also stay up to date by bookmarking our [Bureau of Consular Affairs website](#), which contains the current [Travel Warnings and Travel Alerts](#) as well as the [Worldwide Caution](#) as well as [Country Specific Information for Spain](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well.

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Following are the contact numbers of our Embassy in Madrid, as well as the Consulate General in Barcelona. All contact numbers and addresses are also available on [our website](#).

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